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C Briefing 21 October 1954

SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM

I. Vietnamese political crisis drags on.

A. Mere prolongation of crisis may be immediate goal of General Hinh and Binh Xuyen.

B. Would explain their shifting demands.

C. Reluctant or unable to effect coup, they could hope move in if Diem forced out as result government paralysis.

II. With crisis on his hands, Diem unable provide effective government, possibility his removal heightened.

A. French still lukewarm toward him.

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[redacted] they pressed him to accept
[redacted] Cepeda Xuan, Thieu henchman,
[redacted] as Vice President although
[redacted] ly admits he has no confi-
[redacted] dence in Ky.

3. Ky has lately revived
[redacted] candidacy of Tam Minh's
[redacted] father, for premiership
although in Washington, he
and La Chambre agreed Tam
"unacceptable."

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